25-7-1994 as compared to 127.84 lakh tonnes procured during the corresponding period last year.

(b) The production of wheat for 1992-93 and 1993-94 Crop Year marketable during 1993-94 and 1994-95 Rabi Marketing Seasons are as under:—

(in Lakh Tonnes)

Crop year	Quantity
1992-93 . . .	567.6 (Provisional)
1993-94 . . .	578.0 (Likely)

(c) Stock in the Central Pool is much higher than the minimum buffer stocking norms. The procurement of wheat for Central Pool Constitutes 15 to 20% of the total production in the country and rest of the production remains available for consumption/ marketing. With the open sale of wheat by the Government from its stocks, open market prices are kept under control.

(d) No, Sir.

Demand of wheat and Rice in Gujarat

560. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present demand from the State of Gujarat for wheat and rice and other consumer items to be distributed through Public Distribution system district-wise;

(b) whether Government have adequate stocks of wheat, Sugar and rice to meet the demand;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there is a proposal for allocation of additional quota of wheat and rice for acute drought affected districts of the State; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, and the measures Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) **Rice & Wheat**: The Government of Gujarat has not yet intimated its demand for foodgrains (rice & wheat) to the Central Government for 1994. However, the allocation and offtake of rice and wheat in respect of the Government of Gujarat for 1993 and 1994 upto June are as under:

(In '000 Tonnes)

	RICE		WHEAT	
	Allocation	Off take	Allocation	Offtake
1993 . . .	414	242	652	316
1994 (uoto June, 94).	207	99	321	204

Hence the lifting of foodgrains by the Government of Gujarat has been far less than the quantity allotted.

Sugar: The monthly levy sugar quotas of most of the States/Union Territories including Gujarat are based on the uniform norm ensuring minimum 425 Grams per capita availability for the projected population as on 1-10-1986. Accordingly the monthly levy sugar quota of Gujarat stands fixed at of 16,194 Metric Tonnes.

Edible Oils: In regard to Edible Oil, the Government of Gujarat has not reported its demand of Edible Oil (Palmolein) for the coming months. However, the State Government had

placed a demand of 3,000 tonnes of palmolein for the month of June, 1994. Imported Edible Oil for PDS shall be allocated to the State from the stocks expected to arrive shortly.

Kerosene: In case of Kerosene Oil (SKO) the Central Government makes only bulk allocation of SKO to the States/Union Territories on historical basis. It has been decided to allocate 798295 Metric Tonnes of SKO during the year 1994-95 to the State of Gujarat, after allowing a moderate increase over previous year.

(b) and (c) The stocks position of foodgrains (wheat and rice) in the Central Pool continue to be comfortable. In case of Sugar, in order to augment availability of levy sugar for meeting PDS requirement upto middle of December, 1994, Government had decided to import about 8.5 lakh tonnes of imported sugar. The requirement of PDS would be thus met from indigeneous and imported sugar.

(d) and (e) No proposal has been made by the Government of Gujarat for additional allocation of wheat and rice for the drought affected districts.

Plan for Improvement in the Sugar Production

561. SHRI IQBAL SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have formulated a plan for improvement in the sugar producing sector of the country during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what effective measures Government intends to take to control the price of sugar in the open market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) and (b) Government have not formulated any specific plan for improvement in the sugar producing sector of the country during the current financial year. However, for overall improvement of the sugar industry in the country, the Ministry of Food have sanctioned/disbursed the following financial assistance from the Sugar Development Fund during the current financial year (upto 30-06-1994).

(Rs. in Crores)

	Sanctioned	Disbursed
(a) Cane Development	..	1.94
(b) Modernisation	6.79	10.91

(c) To control the price of sugar in the open market, Government have taken the following measures:

(i) Import of sugar has been allowed under Open General Licence (OGL).

(ii) To monitor the import of sugar under OGL, a Committee under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary (Food) has been constituted, which meets regularly to review the progress and to resolve the difficulties which are brought to its notice by various importers.

(iii) Further, in order to augment the supply for the Public Distribution System, it has also been decided that Public Sector undertakings, like STC and MMTC, would also under-